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Date: 12/27/01

of Pages: 6
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Urgent

Please Review

Reply ASAP

To: Examiner Niki M. EloshwayCompany: USPTOFax #: 703-305-3579Phone #: 703-308-1606From: Virginia SzigetiFax #: 804-520-3568Phone #: 804-520-3651

(Call if you did not receive all pages, or if document is illegible)

MESSAGE:

GROUP ART UNIT: 3727

SERIAL NO.: 08/717,042

FILED: 09/20/96

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 30-3744CIP

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent via facsimile 703-305-3579 to Examiner Niki M. Eloshway, United States Patent Office, Art Unit 3727, on Thursday, December 27, 2001.

Virginia Szigeti Andrews
Virginia Szigeti (Andrews)
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AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.:

30-3744CIP

SERIAL NUMBER:
08/717,042FILING DATE:
September 20, 1996EXAMINER:
N. EloshwayGROUP ART UNIT:
3727

INVENTION:

BLAST RESISTANT AND BLAST DIRECTING CONTAINER ASSEMBLIES

INVENTOR(s): IGOR PALLEY ET AL.

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application. The fee has been calculated as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED

(1)	(2) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	(3)	(4) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(5) NO. OF EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	(6) RATE	(7) ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	65		66	0	X \$18	0
INDEP. CLAIMS	6	MINUS	6	0	X \$80	0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT						0

* If the entry in column 2 is less than the entry in column 4, write "0" in column 5.

** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.

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12/27/01

Date

Virginia Szigeti Andrews
(Signature)

Virginia Szigeti Andrews

Attorney Name

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Phone

29,039

Reg. Number

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Virginia Szigeti Andrews
(Signature)

Virginia Szigeti Andrews

Attorney of Record

December 27, 2001

(Date)

PATENTS**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Group Art Unit: 3727
Examiner: Niki M. Kopsidas
P.D. File No.: 30-3744CIP1

#605
by EXT
Time
1/29/02
R/19/02

In re Application of: IGOR PALLEY ET AL.

Serial No.: 08/717,042
Filed: September 20, 1996
For: BLAST RESISTANT AND BLAST DIRECTING CONTAINER ASSEMBLIES

Colonial Heights, VA 23834
August 6, 1999

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed June 27, 2001, please enter the remarks that follow:

REMARKS

Applicants note the withdrawal of the finality of the previous Office Action (P.N. 18) on the basis of the new grounds of rejection. Applicants further note the withdrawal of claims 12, 48-50 and 54-66 from consideration by the Examiner. The claims under consideration, therefore, are claims 1, 3-11, 13-47 and 51-53, all of which stand rejected by the Examiner.

The invention is a blast resistant container assembly and a blast directing container assembly, each of which comprises a container with blast mitigating material, preferably an aqueous foam, more preferably an aqueous foam having a density in the range of from about 0.01 to about 0.10 g/cm³, located therein. Some of the containers are collapsible. In one embodiment, the container comprises a plurality of faces that are connected at a common edge with fibrous material functioning as a hinge between the faces. In an alternate embodiment, the container is formed by a plurality of bands of specific orientation, at least one of which is formed of a blast resistant material. In the blast-directing embodiment, the container